

REVIEW

READ 1 Corinthians 12:7-11; 12:12-27; 13:1-7

A few key quotes and ideas to reflect on:

- When you become a Christian a number of things happen: **forgiven, adopted, secured**, etc. But one amazing thing that happens is that the Holy Spirit **INDWELLS** you. In conjunction with this, the Holy Spirit gives each Christian a **SPIRITUAL GIFT** - something that flows from the character of God into your life: wisdom/knowledge, faith, healing/miracles, prophesy, discernment, unknown languages/interpretation. All these were operative in the Church. You notice the giving of the gifts is very **PERSONAL (the Spirit decides who gets what)**, and it is very **PURPOSEFUL**: "So we can help each other"
- Every Christian here has a spiritual gifting. **The only question is whether you have identified and employed it.** How do I find my gift? The best way is not by taking a test, it's to **START PLAYING** the game! Coaches (pastors/disciplers/shepherds) then identify your gifting, and you get moved around accordingly.
- **Our culture (like Corinth) is very individualistic/status orientated** - and like them, that causes us some problems as a Church. We have to realize that God has redeemed/called us into a **NEW** life - into a **FAMILY/BODY** with each member being so important that God personally attends to our **GIFTINGS** - for us, but also for **OTHERS** to see/hear the Good News!

ASK:

- **Now ask just a few simple questions:**
 - **Are you "in the game"?** Have you and others helped you to identify your gifts? If not, spend some time praying and schedule a time to grab coffee with an elder or another shepherd in the church (LG, Study or Discipleship Leader). We'd love to help!
 - OPCM has had a measure of "winning" but what would happen if we **all** played? How are you doing in this? Do you know your position? Are you engaged?

PREVIEW Next week we will be in 2 Corinthians. Spend some time this week looking at some passages from this great letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthians. Then pick a passage to read together. Perhaps 2 Cor. 2, 3, or 4 (I love Ch. 4)? Then ask the questions below.

Read your selected passage out loud (if studying in a group, all but one person should keep their Bibles closed for now). **Read slowly.** Line by line if you can. **Read as if for the first time.**

ASK (a guide for this is on the next page)

- **What does it say?** ("Don't be showy....don't be wordy")
- **What do you see?** (picture the scene, the people. What stands out?)
- **What happens next?** Guess! (say, "I wonder...")
- **What do you hear?** (What word comes to mind after reading? Spend some time in silent prayer before answering. *Why do you think God included this here in the Story?*)
- **What do you want to do?** (as a result of what Jesus has done)

PRAY TOGETHER

Worship God for who He is (His attributes revealed in these passages)

Confess the sinful emotions, attitudes, and behaviors that result when we forget who He is

Thank God for what He has done in Christ and your life

Ask God to transform you and to help you apply His word today.

LECTIO VISIO

Christians believe in God's Word and take him at his Word. Yet 21st century Christians have a difficult time seeing God's Word the same way God's people have for centuries: **visually**. That's what this method of Scripture reading is designed to do: help you see the text.

3 INGREDIENTS

- 3 candles, or a 3 wick candle
- 1 Passage (preferably narrative, 5-10 verses)
- 12 or fewer people (Christians or non-Christians)

10 COMMANDMENTS OF LECTIO VISIO

1. No prep! (Lead by asking)
2. Pray simple prayers (tsp prayers: Thank you, Sorry, Please)
3. Shut your Bibles (yup, you read that correctly. Don't worry.)
4. Open your eyes (senses) and picture the scene. Try to get down in the dust of the story.
5. Direct the Film (you as the leader help the biblical scene come alive for those you're studying with)
6. No peeking ahead (1 verse at a time)
7. No rabbit trails (stick to what the text says, not "I feels")
8. Keep telling the story (instead of explaining, WONDER)
9. Keep silence
10. Lead by asking the 5Qs
11. Repeat #2 TSP.

THE 5 QUESTIONS

1. What did it say?
2. What do you see?
3. What happens next? (Guess)
4. What do you hear? (Then/Now)
5. What do you want to do?

A COUPLE EXTRA TIPS FOR LEADERS

Mirror the group. Repeat back what is said and direct them back to the story if things get off track.

Lead Strong. God is actually the one leading the discussion by his Word. Take courage. Have fun. Encourage a bit of playfulness.

Take Notes Here (how did it go? what applications did people give that you can follow up on next week?)